

November 6, 2018

A workshop meeting of the Wareham School Committee was held on Tuesday, November 6, 2018 at 8:30 a.m. in Room 228 in the Multi-Service Center. Present were members Joyce Bacchiocchi, Laurie Spear, Rebekah Pratt and Michael Flaherty, as well as Superintendent Shaver-Hood, Assistant Superintendent Schwamb, Business Manager Owen, Director of Student Services Fay, and recording secretary, Michelle Ruiz.

Finance Committee members present were: David Heard and Gerry Stefanski

Chair Bacchiocchi opened the meeting at 8:30 a.m. She announced the meeting was being recorded by School Committee member Michael Flaherty, Michelle Ruiz, Recording Secretary, and WCTV for video.

Opening Remarks – Susan Owen gave opening remarks about the budget process.

FY20 Budget Presentations

- Wareham High School – Scott Palladino, Principal
Enrollment data including projected enrollment, classes offered, average class size, and current staffing levels
Staffing needs:
FT Assistant Principal in charge of SpEd Department (no teaching duties)
Guidance Director – no director now
FT Athletic Director (position has been part-time for past 6 years)
Dr. Shaver-Hood stated that we have an additional guidance counselor this year to assist the exchange students and being funded by global education tuition from those students.
Budget Drivers: 8th grade student support; aging building; textbooks
He reviewed the line items on the budget worksheet and noted the followings:
 - Athletic user fees and game receipts in revolving accounts are used to offset costs for spring sports
 - Working with Eversource on a matching incentive grant for lights
 - Working on infrastructure to place security lines on one network for the district
 - Discussion on air conditioning unit replacements (free cash voted this year to use for maintenance)
 - Looking to replace snow removal equipment and lighting and sound work in auditorium and HVAC work
 - IDs with scanning mechanisms
 - NEASC self-study for accreditation in 2022
 - Foreign language replacement texts come with an on-line license

- Wareham Middle School (9:41 a.m.) – Tracie Cote, Interim Principal
Class size current and projected; budget drivers – building needs HVAC; on-line textbooks ELA, SS; priority student learning
Staffing needs: to be IB ready we need 2 Foreign Language Teachers; add 0.5 Assistant Principal to make a full-time position
She reviewed the line item budget worksheets and noted the following:
 - Need roof repairs to A & D wings membranes
 - Maintenance increase for HVAC work
 - Need to replace snow blower and vacuum

Discussion on class size and Mr. Flaherty asked for a better breakout of students in classes.

Total increase of \$111,000 goes to IB at \$50,000 textbooks and \$15,000 materials

Heating – a percentage based on number of students

Brief discussion on social promotion.

Dr. Shaver-Hood reported we are looking to restore air conditioning in the Cafeteria for safety concerns with heat and condensation creating a wet floor. We are in the process of getting three quotes. The committee needs to make a decision in this budget process on our buildings regarding HVAC, plumbing.

Finance Member David Heard suggested a maintenance plan be brought to Capital Planning for bonding this need.

- Minot Forest School (10:15 p.m.) – Joan Seamans, Principal
Staffing needs: FT Dean with discipline of sped programs and teach sped students; PI Para Subs – 2 with personal care; replace a retired teacher in grade 4; and current enrollment and projected enrollment
She reviewed the budget worksheets but referenced that some accounts may not be needed as we are a school in a school this year i.e., security.
 - Maintenance work tarring area for parent drop-off
 - Heating - % of heating bill for total school by student

(David Heard left the meeting at 10:34 a.m.)

Principal Seamans was asked if what she requested will keep up the success at Minot and she replied that space is a concern, so no more needs are requested.

Chair Bacchiocchi would like to know if we are actually realizing our savings at least half way through the year by moving Minot into the Middle School.

The superintendent will track the expenditures with projecting savings and also provide a comparison student ratio to staff and social emotional staff throughout the buildings.

- Decas School (10:51 a.m.) – Bethany Chandler, Principal
Staffing and class size with projections for next year; staff needs: two Grade 2 teachers with one less for net of 1 new teacher
Priority is maintaining the building as it stands and instructional programs
She reviewed budget worksheets and noted the following:
 - No computer lab now so must maintain laptops with assessments
 - Heating/Utilities was adjusted for a savings
 - Some air conditioners units are in the building.
 Principal Chandler responded to the needs at Decas for maintenance – generator in capital plan this year – next year outside curbing, parking lot, walkways and pathways; shingling; snow shield on D corridor for safety; modular leaking but holding up well for amount of time used but look at roof and carpeting; new modular will house specialists; if keep school going need to replace carpeting
- Curriculum – (11:11 a.m.) Dr. Andrea Schwamb, Assistant Superintendent
Same amount requested from FY19. The overview included curriculum supplies and teacher stipends; evaluation software; assessment materials and surveys;

professional development supplies, fees, contractual services and substitute teacher costs for PD.

It was noted that some accounts were redundant and some accounts were merged.

- Special Education – (11:22 a.m.) – Melissa Fay, Director
Her overview sheet indicated a savings overall in out of district tuition; only one line increase in private tuition; collaborative tuition decrease; listing of current students on active IEP are 614.

Staffing Needs: increase .3 Team Chair Decas; .2 School Psych Decas; .3 Team Chair Middle; .5 Pysch Middle; .2 Team Chair HS; 1.0 SpEd Teacher HS; .5 Out of District Coordinator

Finance Committee member Gerry Stefanski asked about Sped Salaries, Expenses and the Federal and State Grant offsets.

All staff are under a collective bargaining agreement or on individual contracts. The operational budget funds the majority of expenses. Some out of district tuitions, specialists, a nurse, supplies, and PD expenses are from the 240 IDEA Grant for \$680,209. We have circuit breaker money to offset expenses as well.

The Preschool 262 grant is for \$17,000 coordinator; 298 grant for program improvement if this grant is released by the state.

Savings in tuition for collaboratives is from students back into our schools this year and some went from collaboratives to private tuitions.

Dr. Shaver-Hood shared that we saw a lot of move- ins and DCF students, which have overloaded some of our classes so we needed to add 4 paras and a teacher at the High School that absorbed savings from tuition.

Preschool students who start with an IEP are often taken off the IEP with early intervention. The state requires screening in sped at age 2.9 and our integrated model requires a peer group.

- Transportation – (11:53 a.m.) Dr. Shaver-Hood, Superintendent
Anticipated savings for 2018-19: \$264,716 in out of district savings; reduction in runs \$40,000; bus fees \$20,000 for a total anticipated savings of \$322,760.
Watching homeless student transportation and having difficulty finding services; exploring purchasing a vehicle to save money but we do not have staff at this time.
- Beyond School Time– (11:59 a.m.) Maureen Manning, Coordinator
- Alternative School – no changes to budget; income from school choice students or students who pay tuition pay for salaries; looking for interest to run a summer program for adults 22+; financial workshop, writing skills/resumes being offered to students.

Dr. Shaver-Hood stated that the cooperative day program is in the High School budget.

- ELL/Global Ed – 39 students in the program (31 active and 8 former students being monitored per law). The budget includes 2 teachers, supplies, PD, home visits

The exchange program tuition is \$13,000 per pupil cost and 8 students are here this year almost \$100,000. Looking at potential housing for exchange students long-term and partnerships; we are a public school district with a excellent price point; generated huge interest.

Dr. Shaver-Hood shared that some principals from China will be coming to view our preschool program this year.

- Central Office/District - (12:16 p.m.) Dr. Shaver-Hood stated that this area will be part of our district budget workshop in November and December including further information on transportation.

Susan Owen briefly reviewed the FY20 DRAFT Budget Planning document:

- Basic rollover \$1.1
- Staffing needs \$62K to maintain class size
- Staffing needs \$125K
- Moving district forward \$553K
- Overall \$1.9 or 6.62% increase at this workshop meeting.

This is a moving document with only salaries, not fringe benefits.

Also provided was a per pupil comparison of area surrounding towns and she will provide a per pupil expenditure by school.

Mr. Flaherty moved to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Pratt.

VOTE: yea - 4; nay - 0; abstain - 0

The meeting adjourned at 12:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: _____

List of documents:

WPS FY20 Budget Workbook